

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-14 ACDA-19 NIC-01 OMB-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 SAJ-01 TRSE-00

DRC-01 /140 W

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R 221917Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9873

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION BERLIN

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

CINCEUR VAIHINGEN

CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG

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FOR PLADS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, GW

SUBJECT: PUBLIC ATTENTION AIMED AT SOVIET MLM ACTIVITIES
IN FRG

1. A COUPLE OF PRESS REPORTS ON AN ALLEGED INCREASE IN
ESPIONAGE ACTIVITIES BY THE SOVIET MLM IN BUNDE (AC-
CREDITED TO UK CINC) HAS CAUGHT THE ATTENTION OF OPPOSI-
TION DEPUTIES IN THE BUNDESTAG. FOLLOWING ARE THREE
QUESTIONS WHICH WILL COME UP FOR REPLY IN THE PARLIAMENT
ON JANUARY 23 OR 24.

A. WHAT, ACCORDING TO INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO THE
FEDERAL REPUBLIC, IS THE EXTENT OF ESPIONAGE CARRIED ON
BY THE WARSAW PACT COUNTRIES IN THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC,
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AND ARE THERE ANY SIGNS SHOWING THAT ESPIONAGE ACTIVITY

HAS INCREASED IN RECENT MONTHS?

B. ARE THE PRESS REPORTS CORRECT WHICH STATE THAT OFFICERS OF THE SOVIET MILITARY LIAISON MISSION IN BUNDE, WHICH EARLIER CARRIED OUT BETWEEN 100 AND 200 RECONNAISSANCE JOURNEYS IN AREAS OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC, NOW CARRY OUT ALMOST 300 SUCH RECONNAISSANCE JOURNEYS EVERY MONTH? ("QUICK" OF 17 JANUARY). IF THE ANSWER IS IN THE AFFIRMATIVE, DOES THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC CONSIDER SUCH ACTIVITY COMPATIBLE WITH THE STATUS AND THE TASKS OF THE MILITARY LIAISON MISSION.

C. ARE THE PRESS REPORTS CORRECT WHICH STATE THAT ONE DAY AFTER THE ERECTION OF A STATIONARY WIRELESS MAST IN THE BUNDESGRENZSCHUTZ BARRACKS AT BAD BRAMSTEDT, A RUSSIAN OFFICER PHOTOGRAPHED THE NEW INSTALLATION FROM A VEHICLE BELONGING TO THE SOVIET MILITARY LIAISON MISSION IN BUNDE, AND HAS THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ANY OTHER REASONS TO BELIEVE THAT THE SOVIET MILITARY MISSIONS IN BADEN-BADEN, FRANKFURT AND BUNDE HAVE TAKEN PART IN THE ESPIONAGE ACTIVITY CARRIED OUT BY THE WARSAW PACT STATES IN THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC?

2. FRG FONOFF BROUGHT THE PRESS ARTICLES AND BUNDESTAG QUESTIONS TO THE ATTENTION OF THE THREE ALLIES, AND ASKED FOR INFORMATION OR VIEWS WHICH WOULD HELP THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO RESPOND. FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF A SPEAKING NOTE AGREED TO BY THE BONN GROUP JANUARY 22. IT WILL BE USED BY THE UK REP IN DISCUSSION WITH THE FRG FONOFF LATE JANUARY 22, SINCE MOST OF THE ALLEGATIONS AND QUESTIONS FOCUS ON SOVIET MLM ACTIVITY IN THE AREA UNDER UK RESPONSIBILITY. BEGIN TEXT:

A. AS FAR AS THE QUESTIONS TABLED IN THE BUNDESTAG ARE CONCERNED, THE EMBASSY OFFERS THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS:
QUESTION 1 IS NOT A QUESTION ON WHICH THE EMBASSY IS IN A POSITION TO OFFER ANY ADVICE.

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QUESTION 2. THE INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO THE EMBASSY DOES NOT SUPPORT THE ALLEGATION IN "QUICK". BUT IF THE EMBASSY WERE QUESTIONED BY THE PRESS ON THIS POINT, IT WOULD REFUSE TO BE DRAWN INTO EXPRESSING AN OPINION EITHER WAY ON THE SUBSTANCE OF THE ALLEGATION. THE EMBASSY HOPES THAT FEDERAL MINISTERS CAN BE ADVISED TO FOLLOW A SIMILAR LINE.

QUESTION 3. ONLY THE FEDERAL AUTHORITIES ARE IN A POSITION TO SAY WHETHER THE INCIDENT ALLEGED IN THE FIRST PART OF THE QUESTION OCCURRED AS DESCRIBED. IN THE VIEW OF THE EMBASSY IT WOULD BE ADVISABLE TO AVOID A DIRECT REPLY AT THIS POINT IN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ORDER TO AVOID BEING DRAWN INTO A REPLY ON THE SUBTLY DRAFTED SECOND PART OF THE QUESTION.

B. THE EMBASSY CONSIDERS THAT QUESTIONS OF THIS KIND IN THE UNITED KINGDOM WOULD BE MET WITH A STATEMENT ON THE LINES THAT "IT IS NOT IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST TO PURSUE QUESTIONS OF THIS KIND RELATING TO SECURITY".
END TEXT.

3. COMMENT. EMBASSY IS REPORTING ON THIS MATTER SINCE

THE QUESTION OF SOVIET MLM ACTIVITIES MAY CONCEIVABLY
COME UP IN OTHER PRESS QUERIES IN WASHINGTON OR OTHER
ADDRESSEE CAPITALS.
HILLENBRAND

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